



**Indian Diaspora Council**  
Shared heritage, aspirations and interests  
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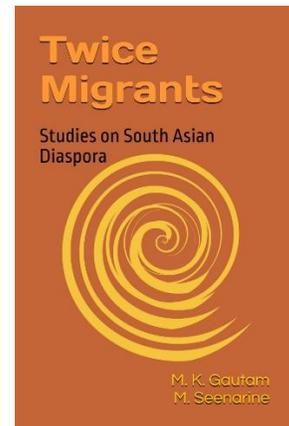
August 06, 2025 (EST-USA)

### **INDIAN DIASPORA COUNCIL MOURNS THE PASSING OF DIASPORA HISTORIAN AND AUTHOR DR. MOHAN GAUTAM.**

The Indian Diaspora Council International (IDC) and its global affiliates mourn the passing of Dr. Mohan Kant Gautam, a prominent anthropologist and scholar who was known for his work on the tribal Santal Tribes of Northern India, as well as Indian Diaspora history, died on 5th August, 2025 in The Netherlands.



*Dr. Mohan Gautam and IDC Pres. Ashook Ramsaran*



*Twice Migrants: Studies on South Asian Diaspora*

He was a lecturer at Leiden University starting in 1962 and earned his PhD from the same university in 1977. His research interests included Indian Diaspora, anthropology, and the literary writings of Hindi writers. He travelled to many of the Indian Diaspora countries including the Caribbean. He is recognized for his significant contributions to the understanding of tribal life in South Asia, particularly through his publications like "In search of an identity: a case of the Santal of Northern India".

He wrote several books including: *Twice Migrants: Studies on South Asian Diaspora*; L P. Vidyarthi (Contribution To The Development Of Anthropology); and other titles,.

His work often involved analyzing historical records and life histories, such as that of Munshi Rahman Khan, to understand the Indian Diaspora in Suriname. He was associated with ARSP for more than five decades, participated in most of the conferences of Pravasi Bhartiya Divas and World Hindi Conferences. His name also appeared in the list of World's Who's & Who. He was also prominently connected to the Indian Diaspora Council and other global organizations. He participated in major meetings, conferences, conventions and symposia globally.

His death is a major loss to the activities and initiatives of Indian diaspora-related research, conferences and academic events. His late wife Trudy passed away a few years ago. Tara Gautam is his surviving daughter who is a photographer and film maker in the Netherlands.

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*Indian Diaspora Council International (IDC), established in 1997, is an international non-profit organization with global affiliates and membership in 21 countries with the objective to embrace, engage and enhance the shared heritage, aspirations and interests of persons of Indian origin with optimum inclusivity.*